

# News Release



**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Jason Hart  
Maintenance Chief  
Phone No.: 925.673.2894  
Email Address: jhart@parks.ca.gov

## **Popular Mount Diablo Viewing Deck Closed Extensive Renovation Underway**

After years of wear and tear, a major renovation of the Mount Diablo State Park's Summit Visitor Center viewing deck, a popular location that looks out above the Bay Area and out to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, has begun. The work starts immediately and is scheduled to be completed by early January 2013. This project protects the integrity of the historic structure and the inside exhibits from water intrusion. The work being performed will be the first major work of the viewing deck since the 1990's.

"We are excited that this renovation is taking place", said Jason Hart Bay Sector Maintenance Chief, "The work will consist of adding a new concrete topping to the viewing deck, followed by application of the traffic coating and the installation of a guardrail. In addition, the doors and windows of the tower which is adjacent to the deck will be re-weathered proofed and painted. Finally, the building's elevator shaft and cab will be upgraded."

The project will require the deck to be closed for the entirety of the project and the inside exhibits to be close periodically.

The distinctive building houses the Mount Diablo Summit Visitors Center. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the structure was recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1949. It is constructed of fossil-laden sandstone quarried in the park. The building is topped by a 1928 navigation beacon installed on top of the mountain to assist with the early commercial air travel to San Francisco. The Summit of Mount Diablo was the starting point for the first survey of California and Nevada in 1851.

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### **About Mount Diablo State Park**

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**California State Parks on the Internet: <<http://www.parks.ca.gov>>**



Towering over the Bay Area, Mt. Diablo is known for its dramatic views and unique geology. The State Park encompasses over 22,000 acres of diverse habitat surrounding the mountain. Rolling foothills, dramatic rock formations and amazing wildflowers invite visitors to experience this nature sanctuary.

Mount Diablo State Park was established in 1921 as one of the first state parks in California. Today, the Park's visitor centers, trails and interesting historic sites host many thousands of visitors each year.

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